

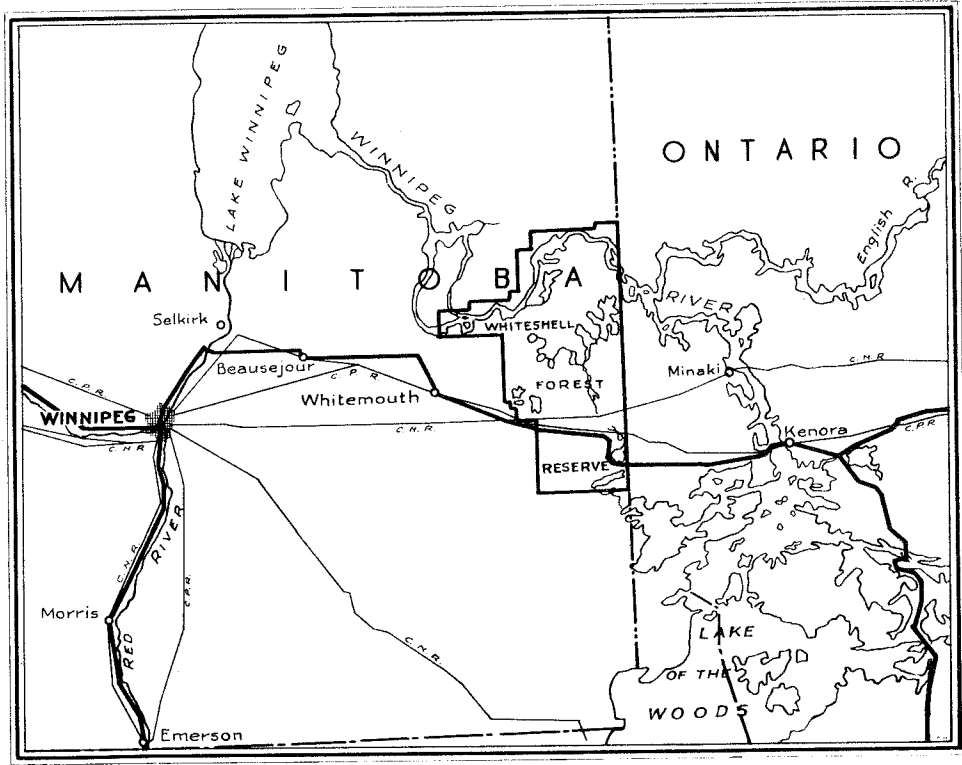


The Whiteshell

Manitoba

Wild Life "The Whiteshell"

W. J. HILLIS



Boundaries of the Whiteshell Forest Reserve

The Whiteshell Forest Reserve has an area of over 1,000 square miles and is situated in eastern Manitoba. It is bounded by the Ontario boundary on the east; the Winnipeg aqueduct on the south; the Winnipeg River on the north; and the western extremity of the Pre-Cambrian Shield on the west.

This playground, containing some 200 lakes and numerous streams, was set aside by the Manitoba Government in 1931, and is dedicated to the use and enjoyment of woodsmen and nature lovers.

The five full color reproductions appearing in this book are from water color paintings by Walter J. Phillips, R.C.A.



"The WHITESHELL"

Nowhere is Canada's great Northland so easily accessible as in the Whiteshell Forest Reserve in eastern Manitoba.

An enchanted land of age-old granite—breezy promontories—cool woodlands and sun-kissed waters.

A land filigreed by crystal lakes—wandering streamlets—rapid waters and the mighty tumbling floods of a great industrial river.

Host to the summer adventurer on pleasure bent—to the sportsman and the fisherman—to the student of nature and the wildings—or to the vacationist seeking only relaxation and the re-creation of mind and body.

Reached conveniently and pleasantly over beautiful scenic highways, roadways and woodland trails—an invigorating northern refuge where Nature still holds sway.

HOLIDAY IN "THE WHITESHELL"
"Where the North comes down to meet you"



Province of Manitoba, Canada

Department of Mines and Natural Resources

Winnipeg, Manitoba

HON. J. S. McDIARMID, MINISTER

1940

"The WHITESHELL"

MANITOBA

A land of lakes and streams, of granite cliffs and shady valleys, of turbulent waterfalls and placid pools . . . the Whiteshell Forest Reserve beckons the tourist and sportsman to eastern Manitoba.

For generations this area was known only to Indians and to occasional prospectors and trappers. During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the North-West and Hudson's Bay Companies used the Winnipeg River as a main artery for travel and trade east and west. After the advent of railways to the Red River settlement, the Winnipeg River route to Lake Winnipeg fell into disuse and the country, inhospitable to settlers, reverted to its natural state.

In 1932 the link of the Trans-Canada Highway between Winnipeg and Kenora was completed, and by the end of 1938 was hard-surfaced throughout. This important route runs for twenty-five miles through the Whiteshell Forest Reserve, past some of its most beautiful lakes, and is today one of the most scenic highways of the North.

The Whiteshell Forest Reserve is easily reached from Winnipeg by No. 1 Highway over eighty-four miles of hard-surfaced road.

The road follows the historic Red River Trail for twenty miles and crosses the Red River at Lockport. From there it traverses a fertile farming country and passes the limestone quarries at Garson, from which the beautifully mottled building stone known as Tyndall stone is obtained. After passing the thriving town of Beausejour the highway crosses the Brokenhead River, a charming little stream much frequented by picnickers and campers. From here the road climbs steadily, crossing a height of land into the watershed of the Winnipeg River, and winds through the pine forests of eastern Manitoba.

After passing the village of Whitemouth in the valley of the Whitemouth River, the first granite outcroppings occur. Gradually the country becomes more broken, the road more winding, until near the village of Rennie at the western boundary of the Reserve, the scenery becomes typical of the great Pre-Cambrian areas of northern Canada.

Mending Boats





A Wooded Shoreline

The Whiteshell Forest Reserve is also easily accessible from Kenora, over thirty-two miles of rugged scenic country, along the Trans-Canada Highway.

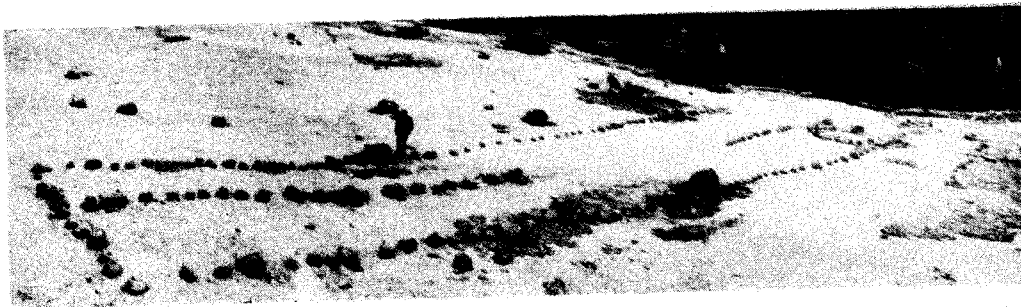
The roving existence of the Indians, precluding the construction of buildings which could survive more than a few years, hampered the archaeologist in search of Indian history in this locality. Until recently only occasional Indian camp sites, trails and graves bore evidence of the earlier presence of this roving race in "The Whiteshell."

In 1935, a trapper brought out word of peculiar designs laid out with boulders on smooth granite outcroppings along the Whiteshell River. A small party from the Manitoba Historic Society investigated and found a number of Ojibway ceremonial mosaics, perfect examples of Neolithic art. As far as is known this is the only occurrence of these ceremonial sites in forested country, and these are also thought to be some of the most perfectly preserved on the North American continent. Snakes, tortoises and other shapes are clearly laid out. The largest of these designs covers nine acres of ground and awakens awesome mental pictures of the ceremonies which took place here, with hundreds of solemn Indians stamping out the rhythm of the tomtom. The great variety of fish, including the royal sturgeon, an abundance of big game and fowl, together with the wild rice found in this vicinity made the concourse of such large numbers of Indians possible.

Sieur de la Verendrye was the first white man to see the Winnipeg River. In 1734, while searching for the Western Sea, this intrepid Frenchman penetrated far into central North America. His maps show the Winnipeg River and also a short passage which must be the Whiteshell River route through the heart of the Whiteshell Forest Reserve.

In 1870 the Red River Expedition under Colonel Wolseley, a force of over 1,200 men, with full supplies and equipment, hurried down the Winnipeg River in boats and canoes to relieve the Red River settlement, harassed by the ill-fated Riel Rebellion. In spite of the hardships and dangers of the trip, the officers, writing of the descent down the Winnipeg River, found little room for describing the difficulties of the trip as the mighty grandeur of the river overshadowed all other impressions.

In 1884 the Canadian Pacific Railway was built through this land of rock and water and was soon followed by what is now the Canadian National Railways. These railways had practically no effect on the Whiteshell area. It was not until the Trans-Canada Highway was opened in 1932 that the beauties of this natural playground came to be generally known.



Ojibway Ceremonial Mosaics

Recreational Facilities

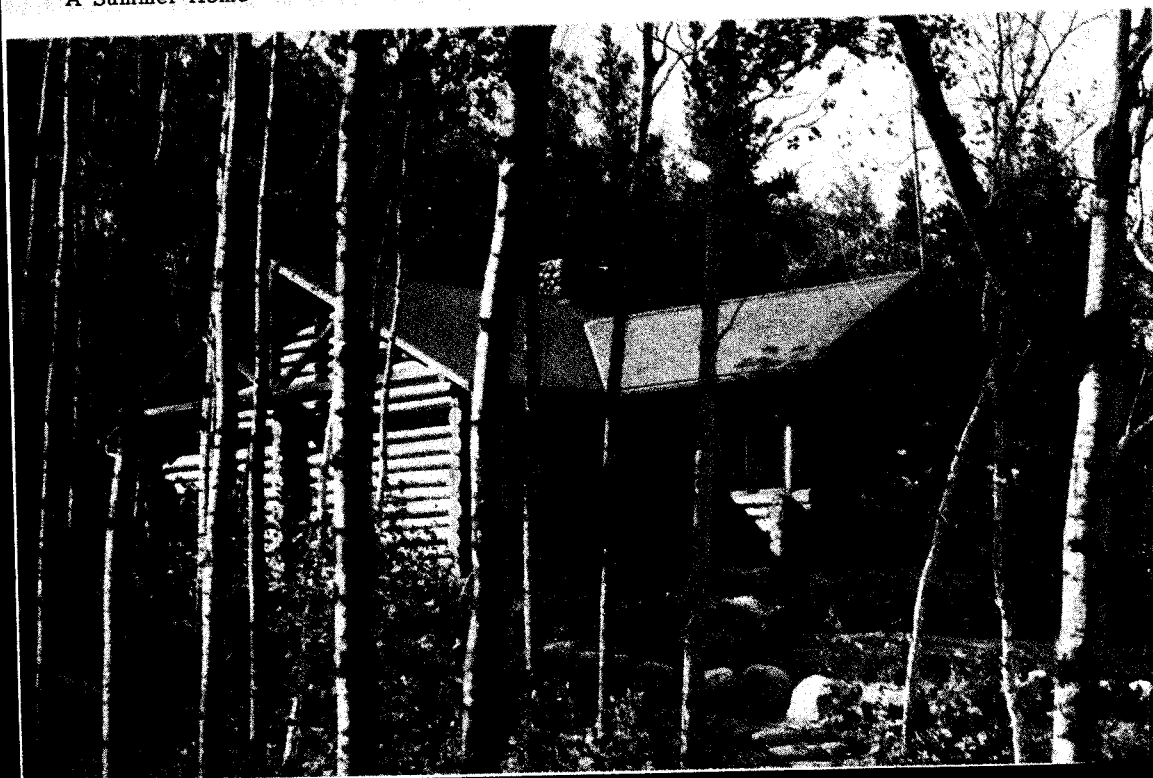
This playground is not for the pampered tourist. Only such improvements are provided as are necessary for protection from fire and water pollution. Camping grounds, equipped with wells, camp cook stoves and other facilities are established at lakes accessible by motor car. Private enterprise has supplied tourist camps, stores and restaurants at West Hawk, Falcon, Brereton, White and Caddy Lakes.

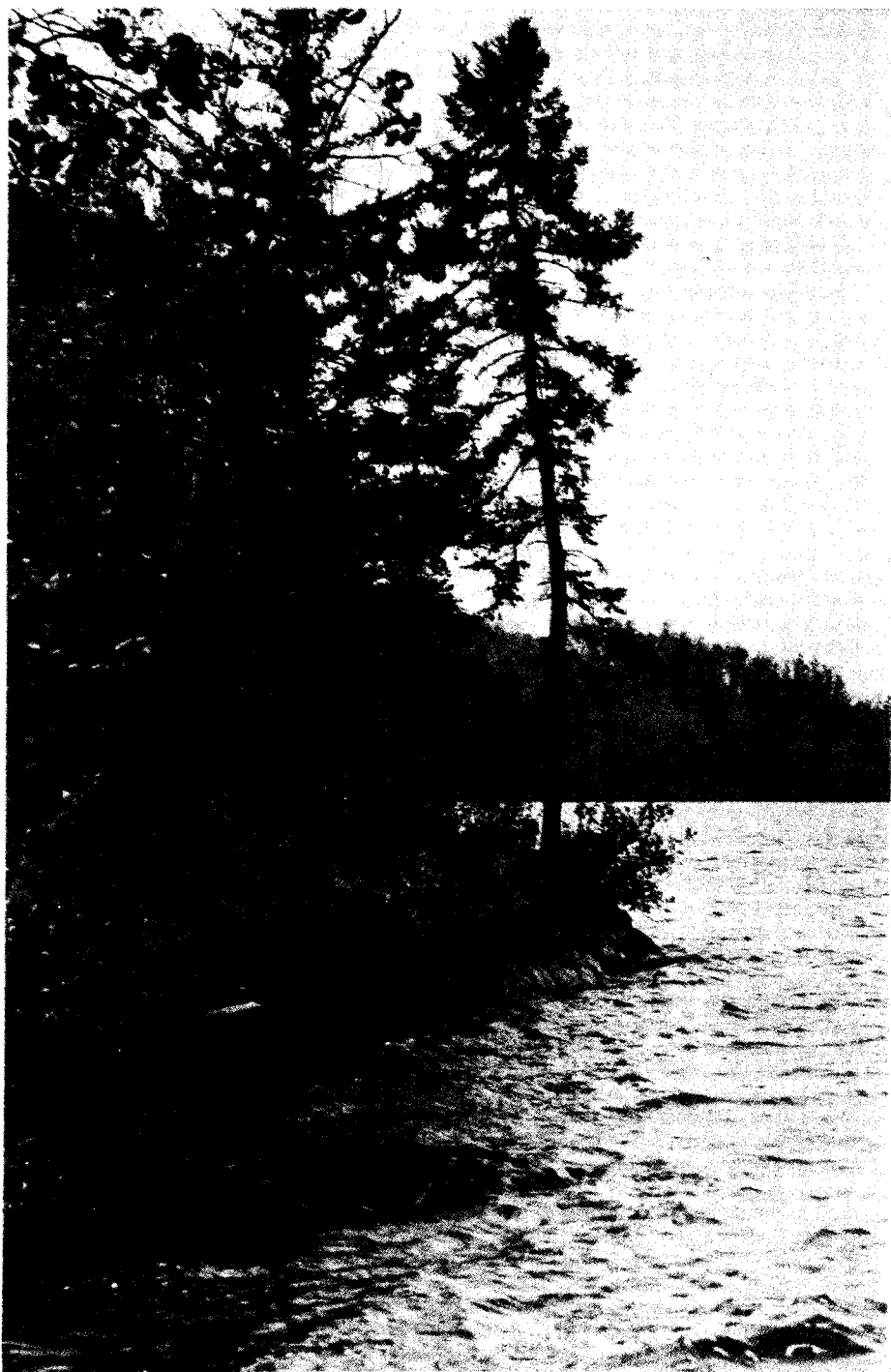
Access to most of the Reserve is by canoe only. The country will provide an ample supply of fish and game in season, and fir and spruce assure a comfortable bed.

In "The Whiteshell" the motorist can pause for an hour or a week, refresh himself in any of the numerous cool clear lakes, and inhale the pure scent of spruce and pine.

The canoeist, in a few minutes time, can enter the great hinterland of northern Manitoba from different starting points and wander for weeks through practically unknown and unexploited forests by way of an ever-changing route of lakes and streams. Here on a portage, beside a waterfall, the canoeist may pitch his camp secure in the fastness of the primeval forest—unchanged since the precipitous cliffs echoed and re-echoed the rollicking song of the *coureur de bois*.

A Summer Home





Shoreline on West Hawk Lake



Rugged Rocks and Rippling Rhythm



A Fine Catch of Lake Trout

FISHING

Several of the lakes in the Whiteshell Forest Reserve harbor lake trout, while all these cold clear lakes teem with pickerel and northern pike. It is easy to experience the thrill of angling in many of the waters of "The Whiteshell" where fish are not startled by the splash of a paddle from one year to another.

Commercial and net fishing are not allowed within this Reserve. The Manitoba Government closes the fishing during spawning time and enforces bag and length limits. Millions of fish fry have been released in the more frequented lakes to assure good fishing indefinitely. In spite of the few years this area has been known to fishermen it attracts an ever-growing number of ardent anglers, many of whom travel several hundred miles to enjoy this excellent sport. The spring and fall seasons are best for fishing in this area.

DUCK HUNTING

The duck hunter's only worry is to decide from which of many lakes to shoot. Lakes filled with wild rice in the vicinity of One Island and Mallard Lake offer perfect shooting grounds, especially after the northern ducks arrive just before freeze-up. Often hunters, too fascinated by watching flocks of thousands of ducks whistle overhead, stop shooting to fully enjoy this unforgettable sight, knowing that their bag limits can be easily filled a little later. Practically all species of ducks are found here, and all are the finest of rice-fed birds.

Many hunters bag partridge, prairie chicken and geese, but these birds, although fairly common, are overshadowed by the thousands upon thousands of ducks.

BIG GAME HUNTING

In order to assure a continuance of good big game hunting, that portion of the Reserve lying south of the Canadian National Railways has been set aside as a game preserve and closed to trapping and big game hunting. This leaves over 700 square miles of the Reserve open for this sport. Red and mule deer, moose and woodland caribou are found in abundance, and most hunters are successful in securing the quota allowed for any of the above species.

The accessibility of the area and the variety of the game found attract a number of hunters every winter. There are no hunting lodges in the area but, by writing to the Tourist and Convention Bureau, Legislative Building, Winnipeg, arrangements can be made for guides and accommodation for a limited number of sportsmen.

BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE

Build Your Camp Fire in a Safe Place

Be Sure It Is Out before You Leave



The Trans-Canada Highway, West Hawk Lake

Motor Roads in "The Whiteshell"

Two miles east of Rennie an all-weather road branches off the Trans-Canada Highway to allow the motorist to enter the heart of the wilderness comprising "The Whiteshell." Scarcely two hours after leaving the streets of Winnipeg, the tourist can drive along the Whiteshell road and may often see deer or, if he is particularly fortunate, bear, wolves or moose, which are hardly aware of man intruding their domain.

The road leads past beautiful Brereton, Red Rock, Jessica and White Lakes, seventeen miles north to the Whiteshell River. The scenery along the Whiteshell road compares favorably with any in the Prairie Provinces. Sometimes stands of slender jack pine line the road, then suddenly the road crosses a muskeg where the spruce and tamarac form a pleasing contrast in green. Again paper birch and poplar lend enchantment. Granite outcroppings cause the road to wind pleasantly, and two and a half miles from the highway one catches the first glimpse of Lake Brereton. The fortunate tourist who first sees this sheet of water, burnished by the setting sun, will forever afterwards reserve a special spot in his heart for this lake. Its many attractions have captivated a number of people who have built summer homes, as well as hundreds who camp or picnic along its shores. Lake Brereton has several good sand beaches, and in many other places smooth, flat shelves of rock allow easy access to good swimming.

Many motorists make Lake Brereton their headquarters, and from there make trips to lakes found farther along the road or those reached by canoe and portage to the west. The lakes to the north afford fine sites for picnics and tenting. Tourist cabins are found at Brereton and White Lakes. Pickerel, northern pike and perch lure the fishermen to all these waters.

Today the road does not extend much beyond the Whiteshell River, which it crosses immediately below one of the many small waterfalls. Eventually it will lead to Whiteshell and Crow Duck Lakes, and a branch road is projected to Slave Falls on the Winnipeg River.



Tourist Cabins, Brereton Lake

HELP PROTECT OUR FORESTS
Don't throw Burning Cigarettes from Cars
KEEP OUR FORESTS GREEN

Scenic Spots

CADDY LAKE

Caddy Lake, at Mile 99, is the first lake easily accessible along No. 1 Highway. A quarter mile of road leads to the canoe dock at the southern end of the lake. Many fishermen pitch camp here, as Caddy Lake offers excellent fishing for pickerel, northern pike and perch. Caddy Lake is also important as the principal starting place for canoeists travelling north into the Reserve or to the Winnipeg River.

Past Caddy Lake the country becomes more rugged, the timber larger and a greater variety of forest growth can be observed along this highway than elsewhere in Manitoba. An occasional white pine towers above the profuse growth of jack pine, spruce and fir. Mountain ash, the belle of northern forests, blends beautifully with the delicate foliage of cedar and larch.

WEST HAWK LAKE

Suddenly, after gaining a crest in the road, the magnificence of West Hawk Lake appears. The sight of miles of water bounded by precipitous shores, often rising a hundred feet, and many coloured cliffs is unforgettably etched on the minds of all who see it. Reluctantly the traveller proceeds past the first inlet, named Penniac Bay, to the camping grounds one mile farther along the route. The first impression of this lake is enhanced by further investigation. The water of this spring-fed lake is wonderfully clear. The lake occupies a veritable chasm, and has been sounded to 400 feet. With clear waters, towering vari-coloured cliffs, wide sand beaches, and softly wooded points, West Hawk is indeed a lake of many charms.

West Hawk is the most frequented lake in "The Whiteshell." The tourist is invited to register at a picturesque log office, and has a choice of acres of wooded area on which to set up camp. Stores, filling stations and restaurants cater to the needs of campers, and a number of tourist camps afford shelter to those not tenting or travelling with trailers. Bath houses at the highway allow the passerby a chance to change into bathing suit for a refreshing dip at Sandy Beach, a crescent of pure, white sand which gradually shelves into the lake.

In addition to the fish common to all these lakes, small-mouthed bass are caught in the northern end of West Hawk Lake, and its deep waters are the home of large lake trout.

Forest Service Office, West Hawk Lake

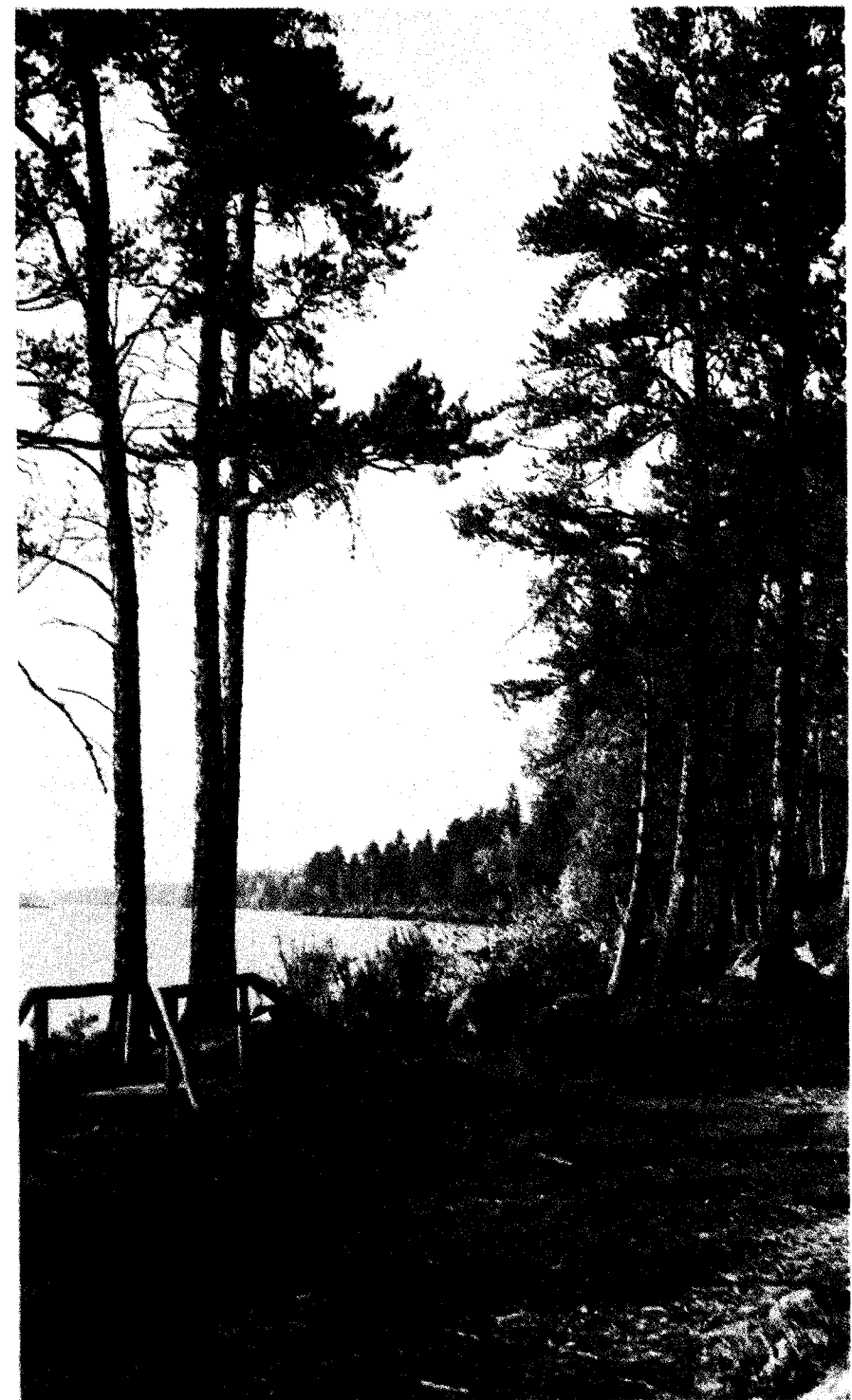




Falcon Lake at Sunset

FALCON LAKE

One mile west of West Hawk Lake a road branches off to the south and leads for four miles through an ever-changing forest to Falcon Lake. Toniata Beach is the most frequented spot. A colony of summer homes is set well back from a beautiful shoreline and overlooks a narrow strip of water. Tenting grounds lie immediately behind a fine sandy beach, and the usual accommodations are provided, including a large bungalow camp and store. Falcon Lake is seven miles long and one mile wide. Not as deep as West Hawk Lake, its waters are, nevertheless, clear and refreshing. The shoreline varies from stark, precipitous cliffs to sandy plains running to the water. Here one finds fishermen from many parts of Canada and the United States, drawn by the excellent pickerel and northern pike fishing common in the lake. A half-mile portage leads to High Lake, bisected by the Ontario boundary and famous for its large lake trout. Boats and canoes can be hired on both these lakes. Many people will find Falcon Lake to be even more enjoyable than the better-known West Hawk Lake.



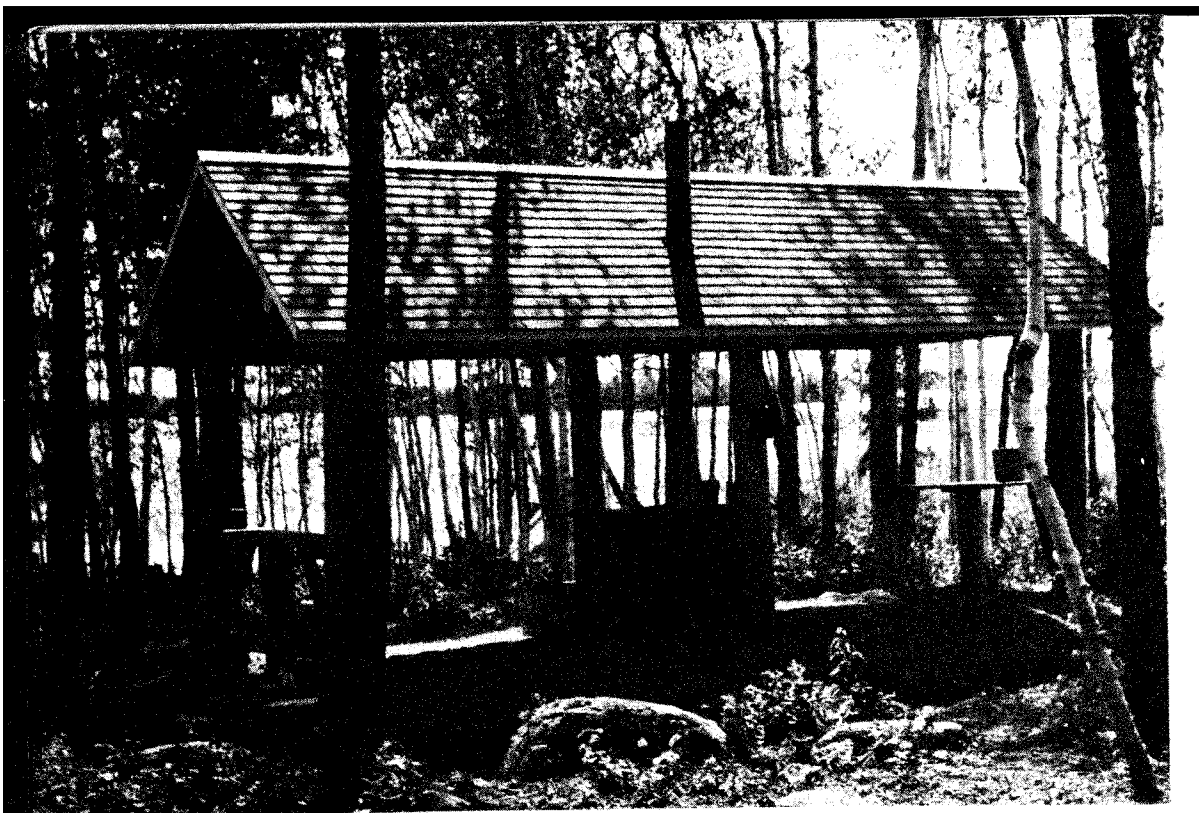
Footpaths Lead along Brereton Shores



Approaching a Landing



Star Lake, a Gem of "The Whiteshell"



Typical Outdoor Kitchenette

STAR LAKE

From Penniac Bay on the highway, or a branch road off the Falcon Lake road, Star Lake can be reached in a few minutes by automobile. Star Lake is well supplied with islands and wooded points. Northern pike are the only fish found here. To the traveller who prefers absolute quiet Star Lake will have a marked appeal. An area has been set aside for camping with a minimum of improvements. A sandy beach lies in front of this well-shaded camp site.

Canoe Routes

The Whiteshell River is a series of startlingly different lakes joined by short stretches of quiet winding river. Portages past rapids and waterfalls are not frequent enough to make travel difficult, but they afford marvellous views of waters rushing through narrow canyons or across series of smooth worn rock, to add still further charm to a perfect canoe route.

Except where wild rice fills Mallard, One Island and Little Whiteshell Lakes, as well as a few short stretches of the river itself, the entire route can be travelled with an outboard motor. It is not within the scope of this bulletin to describe the entire chain of canoe routes through "The Whiteshell." The attached map will show the principal waterways with their connecting portages.

The most frequently travelled canoe route starts at the canoe dock at the southern end of Caddy Lake. From here one may follow the Whiteshell River into almost every corner of the Whiteshell Reserve north of the Trans-Canada Highway.

Caddy Lake is actually two lakes joined by a tunnel under the Canadian Pacific Railway embankment. The water is clear and the shores are rugged until the approach to the tunnel under the Canadian National Railways track. Here the shore becomes very low and the first wild rice beds are encountered. The canoeist will disturb muskrats sunning themselves on their houses, and often a frightened snort will reveal a moose or deer along the shore.

The first portage is found some eight miles from the starting point where one passes a small dam and a sparkling waterfall. The watercourse then twists among towering granite outcrops into Sailing Lake, an excellent lake on which to camp as many attractive sites lie behind fine sand beaches. The river runs through steep rock walls out of this lake, then suddenly into the rice beds of Mallard Lake, the first of several splendid lakes for duck hunting. The outlet of Mallard Lake is a turbulent series of rapids and falls, some three hundred yards in extent, around which leads an easy portage.

Soon the traveller must decide on whether to reach the Winnipeg River near the Ontario boundary by way of the Whiteshell and Crow Duck Lakes or at Jessie Lake through One Island, Jessica, White and Betula Lakes.

The first-mentioned route through Little Whiteshell Lake, another duck hunter's paradise, leads into Whiteshell Lake, one of the most scenic in the Reserve. A double portage gives access to Crow Duck Lake, the largest in "The Whiteshell."

No lake in the entire Reserve can compare with Crow Duck Lake. The shoreline of this large body of water is pleasantly broken by many wooded points, while a number of beautiful islands lend still further interest. Its clear water is inviting to the swimmer and angler. Numerous sheltered sand beaches border this well-wooded lake. Crow Duck Lake is indeed a fine example of rugged northern scenery.

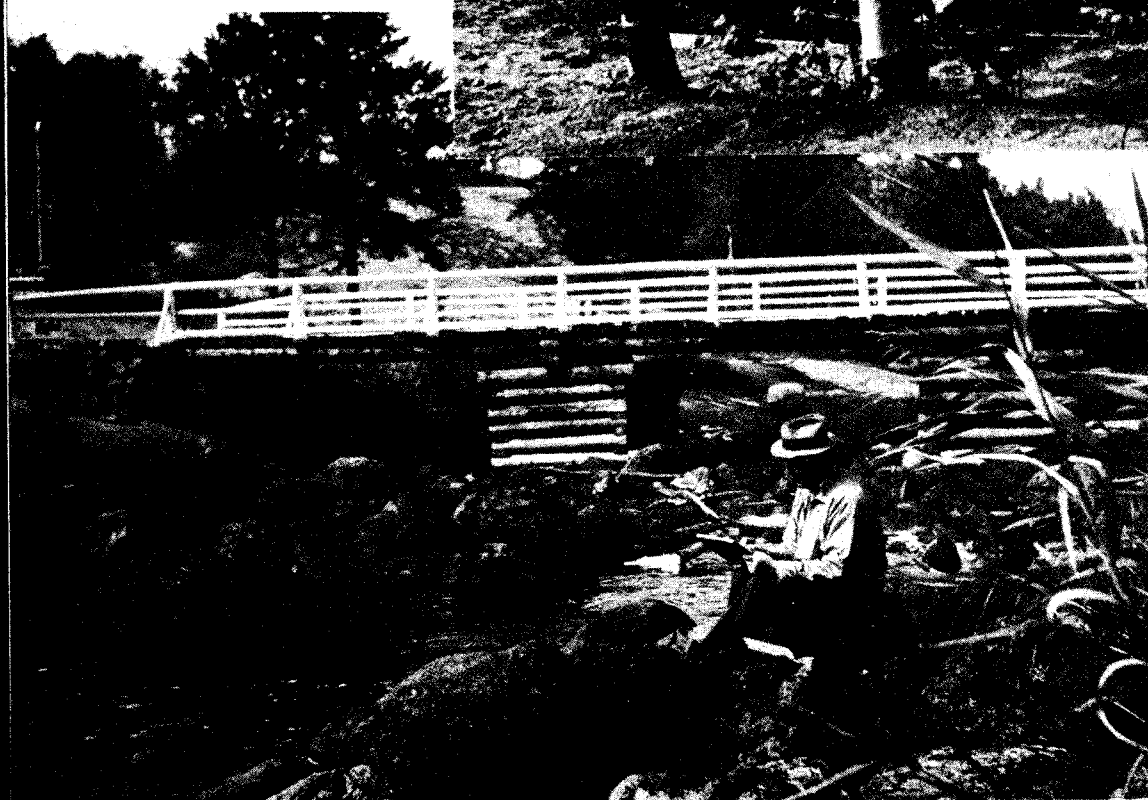
Twin portages lead from Crow Duck to Eagle Nest Lake, a bay of the Winnipeg River.

The alternative main route through "The Whiteshell" is by way of One Island Lake (another wonderful duck hunting spot) and ten miles of the Whiteshell River into Jessica Lake on the Whiteshell road. White Lake is reached by canoe through two miles of the river in which three portages are made. From White Lake the river flows into Betula, near which are found the famous Ojibway mosaics. Falls and rapids occurring between White Lake and Jessie Lake on the Winnipeg River necessitate many liftovers and portages.

Fishing from the Rocks, Caddy Lake



Boats at West Hawk Lake



Whiteshell River Bridge



Entering Rock Tunnel, Caddy Lake



Nature's Doorway



White Water on the Winnipeg River

WINNIPEG RIVER

The Winnipeg River itself may be used as a portion of a trip within the boundaries of "The Whiteshell," or may lead to a trip down the river to Seven Sisters Falls, Lac du Bonnet and Lake Winnipeg, or up stream to Minaki in Ontario. Wherever falls or power plants are marked on the map we recommend portaging, as several of the rapids are not safe at all seasons for those not familiar with them.

The Winnipeg River has been little spoiled by the development of water power. Its shores are high and rocky and one does not find the large areas of drowned land commonly associated with power sites. It was the ease with which this river could be developed that has made the Winnipeg one of the great power rivers on the continent.

No canoe trip in Canada is superior to one along this mighty watercourse. Its rugged, well-wooded terrain gives it an incomparable scenic attraction. The Winnipeg River is actually a series of narrow lakes separated by short stretches of river on which falls and rapids are found.

Most of the river is as little known today as it was one hundred and fifty years ago. It is common to travel here all day without meeting even an Indian.

The traveller today uses the same portage and camp site as were used by La Verendrye, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Sir George Simpson, and all whose names are woven into the early history of the West and North-West.

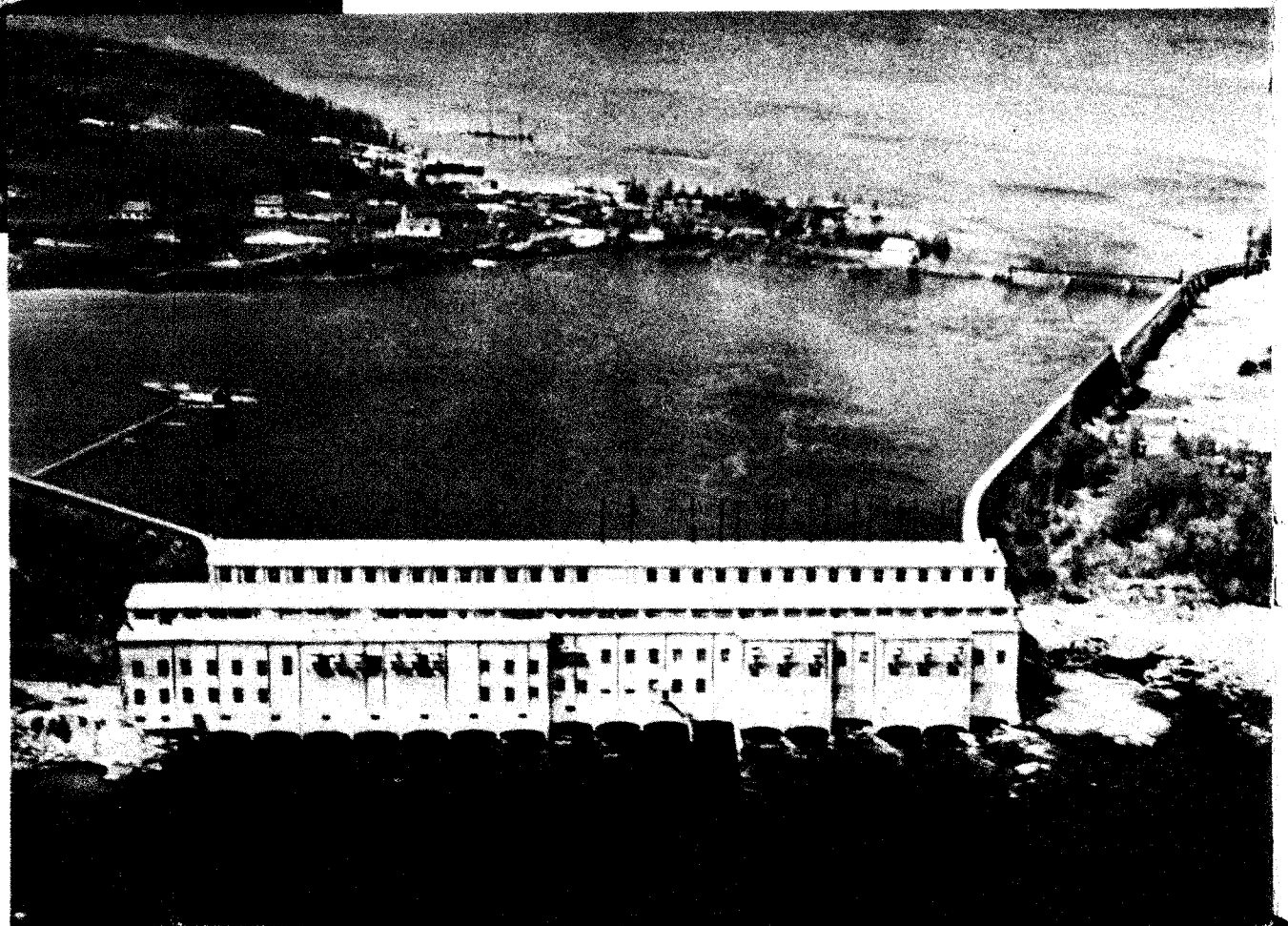
Fishing in the Winnipeg River is good. At present the season is closed for sturgeon, but good catches of pickerel, perch and northern pike can be made. Mooneyes and goldeyes are also commonly caught. These little known fish afford meals fit for a king.

A glance at the map shows a number of lakes not mentioned in this brochure because they are off the main arteries of travel. Such lakes as George and Forbes are excellent for trout fishing. Others such as War Eagle and Malloy afford duck hunting.

Practically all the lakes in "The Whiteshell" are rockbound and teem with fish, and once having tasted the joys of the area the visitor will soon pick one or more of these lakes for his special enjoyment with the assurance that they will provide him with a never-to-be-forgotten holiday far from the care and worry of the every-day world.

For a different, inexpensive, sport-filled holiday, explore "The Whiteshell," where the North comes down to meet you.

A Power Plant on the Winnipeg River



Hunting and Fishing Regulations

ANGLING

OPEN SEASON (Subject to Change)	
Pickereel, Perch, Pike, Goldeye, Saugers, Maskinonge, Mooneye, Arctic Grayling— May 16th to October 31st	
Whitefish, Lake Trout, Speckled Trout— April 15th to October 10th.	
Large or Small Mouth Black Bass—July 1st to October 31st	

BAG LIMIT	
Black Bass	Not more than 6 fish a day.
Trout	10 fish a day
Other varieties	15 fish a day
Numbers doubled for family license holders	

SIZE LIMIT	
Lake Trout	Not less than 16 inches
Speckled Trout	Not less than 11 inches
Saugers	Not less than 11 inches
Pickereel (Dore)	Not less than 15 inches
Yellow Perch	Not less than 8 inches
Goldeye or Mooneye	Not less than 9 inches
Black Bass	Not less than 10 inches

LICENSE FEES	
<i>Resident</i>	
Not required	
<i>Non-Resident</i>	
Three days or less	\$1.25
Seasonal	5.50
Family, three days or less (Two adults and two children under 16)	2.25
Family—seasonal	7.50

No one shall buy, sell or offer for sale any fish caught by angling.

Applications for three-day licenses must state exact dates for which required

A licensee must carry his permit with him when engaged in angling and produce it upon request of any Law Enforcement Officer.

Such permit is not transferable and shall be used only by the person named therein

"One day" shall mean from sunrise to sunset

Licenses may be secured from the Game and Fisheries Branch, Legislative Building, Winnipeg, Manitoba; Customs Officers along the International Boundary, or Tourist and Convention Bureau, Legislative Building, Winnipeg, Manitoba, and stores on the Whiteshell Forest Reserve

No open season for Sturgeon this year

BIG GAME

OPEN SEASON (In Whiteshell Forest Reserve)	
Male Moose, Caribou, Deer—The ten-day period commencing the fourth Monday in in November in each year, and in comput- ing the said period of ten days Sunday to be excluded.	
BAG LIMIT	
One male animal only, during the open season.	

LICENSE FEES	
<i>Resident</i>	
Moose or Caribou	\$5 00
Deer	2 50
<i>Non-Resident British Subject</i>	
Big Game License	\$25.00
<i>Other Non-Residents</i>	
Big Game License	\$40.00

GAME BIRDS

OPEN SEASON (In Whiteshell Forest Reserve)	
Wild Geese, Wild Ducks of any kind, Coots, Rails—September 20th to November 15th	
Wilson or Jack Snipe—September 15th to November 30th	
Ptarmigan—October 1st to October 20th	
Upland Game Birds such as: Grouse (Sharp- tailed, Pinnated and Ruffed); Hungarian and Spruce Partridge—Set by Provincial Order-in-Council	

BAG LIMIT	
Geese	5 a day; possession, 15, season, 50
Ducks	12 a day, possession, 40; season, 100
Coots and Rails	25 a day.
Wilson or Jack Snipe	25 a day
Ptarmigan	15 a day; season, 50
Grouse and Partridge—Set by Provincial Order-in-Council	
Open seasons, bag limits, etc , for migratory birds are subject to change by Dominion Order-in-Council.	

LICENSE FEES	
Resident	\$ 2 25
Non-Resident British Subject	10.00
Other Non-Residents	25.00



Rainbow Falls